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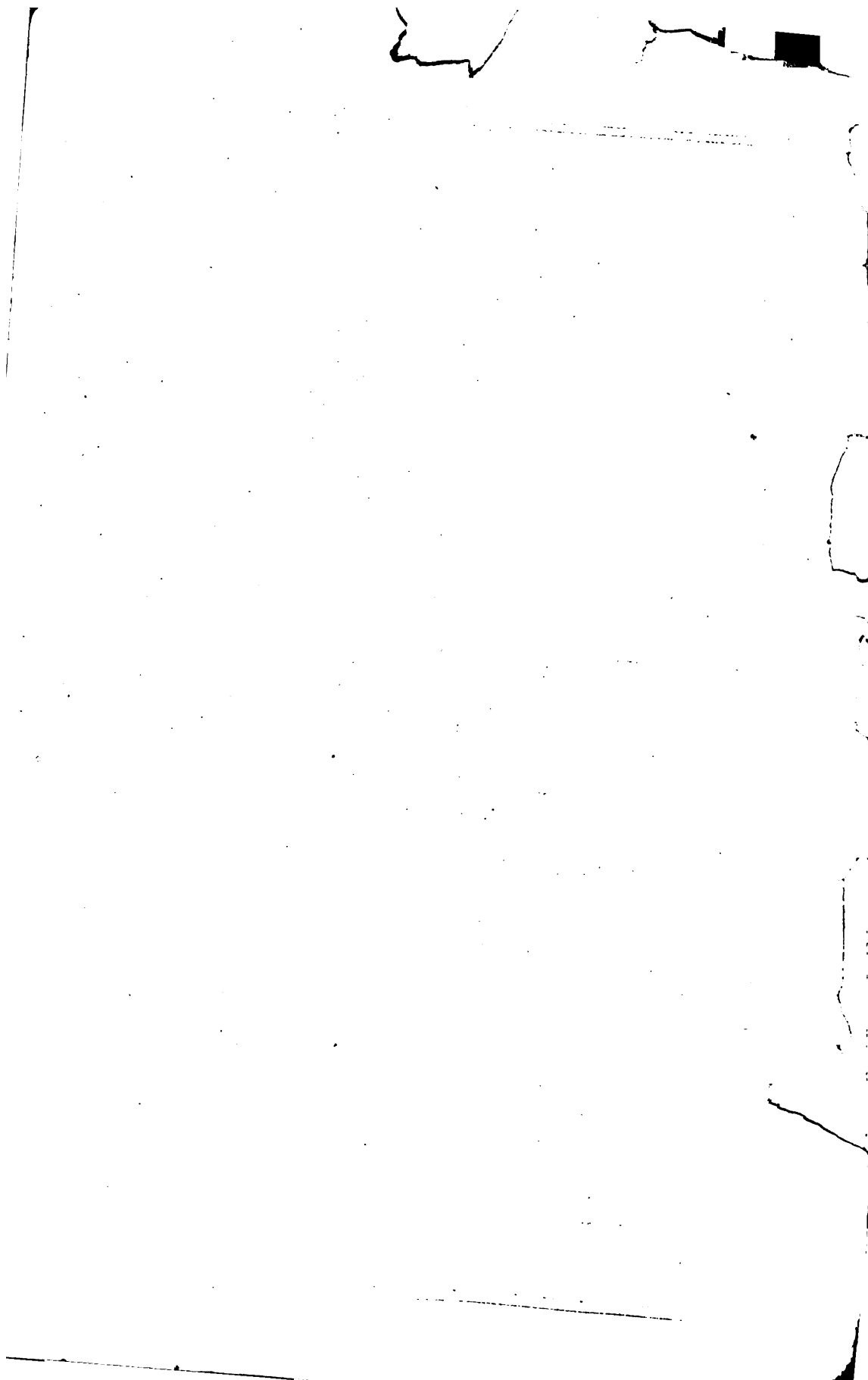
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FOR THE YEARS 1892-3.

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## GENERAL REPORT.

It is gratifying to be able to report the continued prosperity of the Institutions under the direction of the Library, Museum, and Arts Committee. In every direction we notice an increase in the public estimation of our work, and a growing eagerness to avail themselves of the advantages these Institutions confer. A few figures will at once prove this. The Brown Reading Room was last year attended by upwards of 900,000, the Picton Reading Room by over 300,000 readers. Over one million books were issued by the libraries, and over half a million magazines ; while the visitors making use of the newspaper files reached 329,000. The attendances at the Lectures numbered 38,611 ; and at the Evening Reading Rooms 109,258. At the Museum there have been 327,448 visitors, or a weekly average of 6,297. The number of visitors to the Art Gallery was 619,647.

From these figures it is estimated that upwards of two million persons have made use of our Institutions. There is no doubt that a considerable portion of these visits were made for the purpose of entertainment, but it is satisfactory to feel that the entertainment afforded in all cases carries with it some intellectual or educational benefit.

The Committee have desired to popularise their work, in the hope that by attracting visitors they were taking the best means of inducing an increased regular attendance. We are very much the creatures of habit, and it has been felt that if we can only attract new comers, a very considerable proportion will become regular in attendance ; and though such attendance may in the first instance be for newspaper reading, a certain percentage will be induced to go forward and become serious readers and students ; and in this connection it is gratifying to notice the large increase in the issue of books on science and art.

A work of this magnitude cannot be carried on without considerable expense. In Liverpool the funds at the disposal of the Library Committee are limited to the produce of a rate of one penny in the pound, which produced last year only £11,300, as against £13,000 five years ago. If it had not been for the grants made by the City Council out of the Exchequer Contribution Account, it would have been quite impossible to have maintained the institutions in their present state of efficiency. Other towns are more favourably placed, and in all the larger cities and boroughs a rate of twopence in the pound is devoted to the maintenance of the public libraries alone.

Liverpool was one of the earliest cities to inaugurate free public libraries, but we are already left behind in their development. We have only one branch library worthy of the name ; those at the North and South ends of the City being small and inconvenient, and devoid of reading rooms. The time has arrived when new libraries with commodious reading rooms must be provided, and the Committee are taking steps to find suitable sites with a view to recommending the erection of new branch libraries to the City Council.

During the past year large and convenient accommodation has been provided in the basement in the Free Library for Patents and Newspaper files : thus giving additional and much-needed book space in the upper room.

The sanitary arrangements of the building have also been entirely reconstructed.

We have to record the death of the Curator of our Museum, Mr. T. J. Moore, after forty years service. He brought to bear upon the discharge of his duties the enthusiasm of a born student of nature, combined with a profound scientific knowledge of his profession, which won for him the admiration and respect of all naturalists.

We have been unable, for lack of funds, to add many specimens to our already splendid collection of Natural History objects.

We availed ourselves of an opportunity afforded last Spring to hold a Naval Exhibition in the Art Gallery, which was in every way successful. Out of the profits the Committee were able to purchase Maclise's great picture "The Death of Nelson."

The Autumn Exhibition of Pictures was, next to the year 1891, the most successful ever held. The pictures were above the average in excellence, and the exhibits of the Glasgow school attracted much attention.

During the year the Roscoe Collection of Pictures has been presented by the trustees of the Royal Institution on permanent loan. They form a unique collection of mediæval pictures, mostly of the Italian school, containing examples of many of the old masters, which will be of great interest and educational advantage. This collection forms a very valuable addition to the Permanent Gallery, but will necessitate the addition of further accommodation for its proper display.

We cannot conclude this *resumé* without alluding to the great work carried out by the Sub-Committee on Technical Education. A system of technical training has been introduced into Liverpool ; so wide-reaching

as to be available to every class and every trade, and so admirable in its organization that there is no apprentice or artizan so poor but can, if he has ability and industry, work his way to the highest branches of his trade or profession.

The Nautical School has been opened in the buildings belonging to the old Royal Institution. It has started under favourable auspices, equipped efficiently in every department, and with an excellent teaching staff; already over one hundred students are entered upon the Register, and there is every prospect of its advantages being readily appreciated by our seafaring population.

WILLIAM B. FORWOOD,  
CHAIRMAN.

### REFERENCE LIBRARY.

The Reference Library, through the medium of the Brown Reading Room for popular reading and the Picton Reading Room for reading of a more studious character, maintains unimpaired its great hold on public favour. There are few sights more calculated to impress the imagination than the Brown Reading Room, crowded as it often is with more than 500 men standing round the newspapers of the day or seated enjoying the contents of volumes of the illustrated periodicals or the works of the best writers of English prose fiction. And if we take, in conjunction with this, the 150 to 200 students who may often be seen in the adjoining Picton Reading Room absorbed in works of a more thoughtful kind, the sight is still more impressive, and well calculated to illustrate the important work which this Library is engaged in. The Brown Reading Room being assigned for the perusal of popular literature, is by far the best-attended room. Here are found the principal London, local, and provincial papers; magazines of a varied and entertaining character; the principal trade, county, and city and town directories to which there is unrestricted access; and for those who desire light literature, there is available a selection of the works of the best novelists. The statistics of issues and attendances of this part of the Library are as follows:—

Visitors to the Newspapers (computed on the basis of periodical counts) ... ..	271,333
Monthly and Weekly Magazines issued ... ..	248,350
Illustrated Papers issued in volumes (as the Graphic, Illustrated London News, Punch, &c.) ... ..	117,196
Directories ... ..	82,214
Specifications of Patents for Inventions ... ..	13,410
Volumes of Prose Fiction ... ..	187,165



These figures make a total of 919,668, and though they do not represent distinct persons, they are more representative of persons than might be imagined seeing that readers confine themselves very largely to a particular kind of literature.

The Picton Reading Room is an extension of the Library built by Sir William Brown, and was so called by the City Council in honour of the late Sir James Allanson Picton, who for nearly 40 years presided over the Committee of these institutions, and who devoted so much of his time and abilities to promote their success.

The room is circular in shape, with a diameter of 100 feet. It is lighted by day from a central roof-light 24 feet in diameter, and by night by electricity from an ornamental column rising from the centre of the floor of the room. The three arc lamps, with their screen of opal glass, form one of the most effective and successful installations in the country. The room is set apart for study and literary research and inquiry. Novels and popular magazines are not issued except under very special circumstances. Pens and ink are provided on certain of the tables. Special facilities are given for obtaining dictionaries, encyclopædias, and other works of constant reference. Atlases are placed in various parts of the room, and there are some 200 of the principal scientific and literary reviews and journals, both English and Foreign, to which the readers have access at pleasure. Every desire is made to render the room as attractive for literary work as possible, and to dispense with as much "red tape" as is compatible with the safety of the books and general advantage of readers. The following comparative table shows that 201,705 volumes have been issued during the past year against 173,831 last, making an increase of 27,874 volumes. This is quite apart from the issues in the Brown Reading Room.

In the previous Report attention was called to the vote of money by the City Council, under the Customs and Excise Act, for the purpose of increasing the number of technical books in both the Reference and Lending Libraries. The addition to the libraries, from this source, of many valuable and useful books of a practical and technical kind is evidently being appreciated, for the class which has been most affected by the general increase of the issues is that of arts and sciences. Compared with last year, the issue of scientific books has increased by 10,592 volumes. To aid the student and general reader, a small Hand-list of important books of reference, with notes giving the scope and

general character of the books enumerated therein, has been published and copies placed in the room for general use. It is expected that it will prove a useful auxiliary to the catalogue. The hope held out in the last Report of finding in the basement of the Library satisfactory accommodation for the specifications of patents and files of newspapers, as well as for those who so frequently wish to consult them, has been fully realised, and apartments are now provided that have given rise to expressions of general pleasure and satisfaction.

### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS OF LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

	Volumes issued.	Weekly, &c. Magazines issued.	Newspaper Visitors.	Lecture Attendances
<b>BROWN LIBRARY:</b>				
Volumes issued .....	187,165	..	..	..
Monthly and Weekly Magazines .....	..	248,350	..	..
Illustrated Papers, issued in volumes, ("The Graphic," "Illustrated London News," "Punch," &c.) .....	117,196	..	..	..
Directories .....	82,214	..	..	..
Specifications of Patents for Inventions .....	13,410	..	..	..
Visitors to the Newspapers .....	..	..	271,333	..
<b>PICTON READING ROOM:</b>				
Volumes issued .....	201,705	..	..	..
Magazines and Reviews .....	..	118,030	..	..
<b>NORTH, SOUTH, AND EAST LENDING LIBRARIES:</b>				
Volumes lent .....	463,256	..	..	..
<b>EAST LIBRARY READING ROOM:</b>				
Volumes issued .....	35,170	..	..	..
Magazines and Reviews .....	..	68,705	..	..
Visitors to the Newspapers .....	..	..	58,461	..
<b>EVENING READING ROOMS:</b>				
Newspapers, Magazines, and Reviews ..	..	109,258	..	..
<b>LECTURES:</b>				
Attendance .....	..	..	..	38,611
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>1,100,116</b>	<b>544,843</b>	<b>329,794</b>	<b>38,611</b>

NOTE.—The figures in columns 2 and 3 are computed on the basis of periodical counts of readers, but they are rather under-estimated than over-estimated.

## Comparative Statement of issues in the Picton Reading Room :—

Classification.	1892.	1891.	Increase 1892.
Theology, Morals, &c. ... ..	19,706	15,694	4,012
Natural Philosophy, &c. ... ..	16,753	14,330	2,423
Natural History... ..	7,997	6,184	1,813
Science and the Arts ... ..	30,392	24,086	6,356
History and Biography... ..	18,797	15,917	2,880
Topography and Antiquities ... ..	7,687	6,059	1,578
Voyages and Travels ... ..	9,849	8,412	937
Miscellaneous Literature ... ..	36,657	34,475	2,182
Jurisprudence, Law, and Politics ... ..	5,318	4,559	759
Commerce, Political Economy, &c. ... ..	5,179	4,014	1,165
Education and Language ... ..	7,947	6,697	1,250
Poetry and Dramatic Literature ... ..	10,485	9,728	757
Latin and Greek Classics ... ..	4,469	4,053	416
Encyclopædias, &c. ... ..	21,019	19,678	1,846
Totals ... ..	201,705	173,831	27,874

TABLE.—Showing the number and classification of works contained in the Library :—

Classification.	Volumes.
Theology, Morals, &c. ... ..	7,376
Natural Philosophy, &c. ... ..	2,519
Natural History ... ..	5,526
Science and the Arts ... ..	12,237
History and Biography... ..	12,770
Topography and Antiquities ... ..	5,468
Voyages and Travels ... ..	5,315
Miscellaneous Literature (principally collected Works, Essays, Reviews, Societies' Proceedings, &c., in volumes) ... ..	24,519
Jurisprudence, Law, and Politics ... ..	8,163
Commerce, Political Economy, &c. ... ..	1,682
Education and Language ... ..	1,629
Poetry and Dramatic Literature ... ..	4,114
Prose Fiction ... ..	5,481
Latin and Greek Classics and Translations ... ..	982
Encyclopædias and Works of General Reference ... ..	3,481
Total ... ..	101,262

The following Periodicals, Newspapers, &c., have been presented regularly by the respective Publishers :—

1000/-	Agents' Journal	Liberal Unionist
12-75	Anglo-American Times	Library
4/02	Animals' Guardian	Light
2/22	Arms and Explosives	Light Line Magazine
1/20	Assure	Lightening
6/38	Athletic and Dramatic News	Literary News
2/88	Australian Standard	Liverpool Catholic Times
1/57	Awake	Liverpool Courier (daily and weekly)
987	Bible Advocate	Liverpool Echo
2/182	Blackpool Times	Liverpool Express
756	Brewers' Guardian	Liverpool Journal of Commerce
1/166	British Columbia Commonwealth	Liverpool Mercury (daily and weekly)
1/250	British Journal of Commerce	Liverpool Porcupine
757	British Temperance Advocate	Liverpool Post (daily and weekly)
416	British Woman's Temperance Journal	Liverpool Programme
346	Builders' Reporter	Liverpool Review
—	Building World	Liverpool Sentinel
374	Cambridge Examiner	Liverpool Y.M.C.A. Journal
3126	Canadian Patent Office Record	Llandudno Advertiser
1	Cape Argus	Machinery
	Chambers' Journal of Commerce	Machinery Market
	Charity Record	Manufacturers' and Engineering
	Children's World	Export Journal
	Child's Guardian	Manufacturer and Builder
	Church Missionary Gleaner	Medium
	Church Missionary Intelligencer	Merchant Taylor's Review
	Church Monthly	Midland News
	Church Musician	Miller
	Civil Service Aspirant	Milling
	Civil Service Competitor	Modern Review
	Colonies and India	Mona's Herald
	Commercial and Transport World	Money and Trade
	Concord	Morning
	Day of Days	Musical Herald
	Discovery	National Society of Professional
	Eastbourne Standard	Musicians : Monthly Journal
	Educational Times	Natural Food
	Electrical Review	Nature Notes
	Electrician	New Church Magazine
	Electricity	News
	Emigrant	Nonconformist Musical Journal
	Engineering Review	Northampton Mercury
	Englishwoman's Review	Oddfellows' Magazine
	Enquire Within	Official Journal of the Patent Office
	Financial Reformer	Oxford Chronicle
	Fire and Water	Paper Maker
	Fireside	Personal Rights Journal
	Foresters' Miscellany	Pitman's Musical Monthly
	Free Life	Portland Cement Journal
	Free Russia	Post
	Fruit Trade Journal	Practical Photographer
	Good Health	Present Truth
	Greater Britain	Preston Herald
	Grocers' Review	Printers' Register
	Gwalia	Protestant Observer
	Hand and Heart	Provincial News

<b>Hereford Times</b>	<b>Queensland Patent Office Gazette</b>
<b>Heretic</b>	<b>Railway Review</b>
<b>Homeland</b>	<b>Ramsey Courier</b>
<b>Home Words</b>	<b>Richmond and Twickenham Times</b>
<b>Homœopathic World</b>	<b>Sala's Journal</b>
<b>Imperial Federation</b>	<b>Script Phonographic Journal</b>
<b>In His Name</b>	<b>Shipping World</b>
<b>Insurance Agent</b>	<b>Stationery World</b>
<b>Insurance and Banking Review</b>	<b>Stonyhurst Magazine</b>
<b>Invention</b>	<b>Sunday Closing Reporter</b>
<b>Inventor's Review</b>	<b>Trade Marks Journal</b>
<b>Irish Times</b>	<b>Two Worlds</b>
<b>Iron and Coal Trades Review</b>	<b>University Correspondent</b>
<b>Iron and Steel Trades Journal</b>	<b>Vaccination Inquirer</b>
<b>Isle-of-Man Examiner</b>	<b>Visitor's Directory</b>
<b>Jewish World</b>	<b>Vegetarian Messenger</b>
<b>Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association</b>	<b>Warrington Observer</b>
<b>Journal of the Royal Statistical Society</b>	<b>Warwickshire Herald</b>
<b>Journal of Speculative Philosophy</b>	<b>Western Daily Press</b>
<b>Keyboard</b>	<b>Worcestershire Herald</b>
<b>Ladies' Review</b>	<b>Zoophilist</b>

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## JOSEPH GIBBONS LIVINGSTON, ESQ., J.P. :—

An authentic account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China, taken chiefly from the papers of His Excellency the Earl of Macartney, by Sir George Staunton, 2 vols. 1797.

Description géographique, historique, chronologique, politique, et physique de l'empire de la Chine et de la Tartarie Chinoise, par J. B. du Halde, 4 vols. 1736.

## J. ALLANSON PICTON, ESQ., M.P. (The Author) :—

Sir James A. Picton : a biography, by his son.

## MISS PICTON :—

The Life of Sir James A. Picton, F.S.A., by J. Allanson Picton, M.P., Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the edition for use of the blind, worked by Miss Picton.

ALDERMAN EDWARD SAMUELSON, J.P. :—

*Antiquæ linguæ Britannicæ nunc vulgò dictæ Cambro-Britannicæ a suis Cymræcæ vel Cambricæ ab aliis Wallicæ et linguæ Latinæ dictionarium duplex.* John Davies, D.D., et Thomas Williams, with MS. additions, 1632.

*Y Delyn, y Crwth, a'r Pibgorn* : being an address on the cultivation of music—chiefly instrumental—in the Principality of Wales, by Edward Samuelson. 4 copies.

Other Books and Pamphlets, Reports, &c., have been received from the following donors, for which the Committee again beg to express their grateful acknowledgments :—

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, U.S.A. ; A. R. Allison, M.A. ; Messrs. Andrews and Co. ; Apprentices' Library, New York, U.S.A. ; Ernest Axon ; James Bain (Librarian, Public Library, Toronto, Canada) ; C. C. Knollys, M.A. (Colonial Secretary for Barbados) ; Francis F. Barrett (Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow) ; Barrow-in-Furness Free Public Library ; F. Bashforth, B.A. ; Messrs. Bell and Sons ; Berlin Municipal Corporation ; Bermondsey Public Library ; Mrs. T. Billing ; Birkenhead Free Public Libraries ; Blackburn and District Chamber of Commerce ; C. K. Bolton ; Alfred Booth, J.P. ; Bootle Free Public Library ; Boston Public Library ; Messrs. Boyle and Co. ; Bridgeport Public Library, U.S.A. ; Bristol Free Public Libraries ; British and Foreign Bible Society ; British Association for the Advancement of Science ; Brooklyn Library, New York, U.S.A. ; J. Campbell Brown, D.Sc. ; T. B. Browne ; T. N. Brushfield, M.D. ; National Library, Buenos Ayres ; Bureau of Statistics, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. ; F. J. Burgoyne (Librarian, Public Libraries, Lambeth) ; German Burmeister, M.D., &c. (Director, National Museum, Buenos Ayres) ; Messrs. Cadbury Bros. (per William Talliss) ; Cambridge University ; Messrs. Cassell and Co. ; Alfred Castellain, J.P. ; Cercle de la librairie, Paris ; Henri Cernuschi ; Messrs. Chapman and Hall ; Chicago Board of Trade, U.S.A. ; T. W. Christie, B.A. ; Church Missionary Society ; Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, U.S.A. ; Cincinnati Museum Association, U.S.A. ; Cincinnati Public Library, U.S.A. ; Cobden Club ; Jonathan A. Cole, M.D. ; Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York, U.S.A. ; Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A. ; Messrs. Crosby Lockwood and Son ; Messrs. Curtis and Harvey ; Dublin University ; Durham University ; C. A. Ehrenfechter ; Emigrants' Information Office, London ; J. English ; English Land Restoration League ; General Fairchild ; Mrs. P. F. Fitzgerald ; Francis Fisk ; Alfred C. Fryer ; General Register and Record Office of Shipping and Seamen, London ; General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, New York, U.S.A. ; Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada ; Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College ; Glasgow Athenæum ; Sir Frederick J. Goldsmid, C.B., K.C.S.I. ; W. H. Griffiths ; W. N.

Greenwood, F.R.M.S.; Harvard University College, Camb., Mass., U.S.A.; Harvard University Library, Camb., Mass., U.S.A.; Hertford Free Library; Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire; Imperial Institute; the Secretary of State in Council for India; Institution of Civil Engineers; Institution of Mechanical Engineers; International Congregational Council, London; Alexander Ireland; Mrs. Jackson; Osmund W. Jeffs; Jepson Mercantile Directory Co.; Hugh R. Jones, M.A.; Messrs. Jowett & Co.; Kavasji Edalji Kanga; Kirkdale Voluntary Industrial Day (Ragged) School; Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma, M.A.; Samuel Laing; Lancashire and Cheshire Entomological Society; Messrs. C. and E. Layton; J. Lee; Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society; Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society; Gertrude Leighton; Library Reports from various Libraries; Liverpool Institutions, Societies, &c.:—Amateur Photographic Association; Architectural Society; Auxiliary Army Scripture Readers' and Soldiers' Friend Society; Blue Coat Hospital; Catholic Publishing Depôt; Catholic Reformatory Association; Central Relief and Charity Organization Society; Certified Industrial Schools; Chemist's Association; Church of England Scripture Readers' Society; Church Missionary Society; Clerks' Association; Council of Education; Dental Hospital; Dispensaries; Diocesan Church of England Temperance Society; Diocesan Institution; Diocesan Sunday School Institute; Deaf and Dumb School; Engineering Society; Female Orphan Asylum; Geological Association; Geological Society; Horticultural Association; Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund; Incorporated Law Society; Infant Orphan Asylum; Infirmary for Children; Liverpool College Library; Liverpool Institute Literary and Philosophical Society; Medical Institute; Mercantile Marine Service Association; Mersey Docks and Harbour Board; Microscopical Society; Naturalists' Field Club; Penny Savings Bank; Philharmonic Society; Philomathic Society; Polytechnic Society; District Providential Society; Royal Infirmary; Royal Institution; Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Royal Southern Hospital; Sailors' Home; Savings Bank; School Board; School of Science; School Ship "Conway"; Science Students' Association; Seamen's Friend's Society; Seaman's Orphanage Institution; Self-help Emigration Society; Shipwreck and Humane Society; Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress; Sunday Society; Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs; Town Mission; Training School of Cookery; Training Ship "Indefatigable"; United Gas Light Company; United Trades and Labour Council; University College; Welsh National Society; Workshops for the Out-door Blind; Young Men's Christian Association; Young Women's Christian Association—Mrs. M. C. Londini; London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company; Frederick W. Lowndes, M.R.C.S.; J. H. McGovern; Harriot Mackenzie; A. J. McMillan (Manager for the Government of Manitoba, Liverpool); Manchester Athenæum; Manchester Free Public Libraries; Manchester Geological Association; Manchester Microscopical Society; Manchester Statistical Society; Marine Board, London; Mercantile Library, New York, U.S.A.; Mercantile Library, Philadelphia, U.S.A.; Mercantile Library, St. Louis, U.S.A.; Mersey Mission to Seamen; Meteorological Office, London; John Miller; University of Minnesota, U.S.A., (Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota); David H. Mont-

gomery; John Murray; National Academy of Science, Washington, U.S.A.; National Footpath Preservation Society; National Lifeboat Institution; National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; Agent General for New South Wales, London (Sir Saul Samuel, K.C.M.G., J.P.); New Zealand and Australian Land Company; The Manager, "News" Office, London; Messrs. Newton and Eskill; Representatives of the late J. E. Nightingale, F.S.A.; Norwegian North Atlantic Expedition; Nottingham Free Public Libraries; Henry Owen, B.C.L., F.S.A.; University of Oxford; Messrs. Parker and Company; Comptroller of Patents, London; Peabody Institute, Baltimore, U.S.A.; Messrs. Phillipson and Golder; Plymouth Free Public Library; William F. Poole, LL.D., (Librarian, Newberry Library, Chicago, U.S.A.); John Price, C.E.; The Lessee, Prince of Wales Theatre, Liverpool; Queen's College, London; T. Blakeney, (Registrar of Patents, Queensland); W. H. Quilliam; J. Henry Quinn (Librarian, Public Libraries, Chelsea); Colin Rae-Brown; James H. Rawlins; T. Mellard Reade, C.E.; Henry H. Remfry, M.S.C.L.; Admiral Sir G. H. Richards, K.C.B., &c.; Richmond Free Public Library; Executors of the late Mrs. H. Ridyard; Rotunda Theatre Company, Liverpool; Brandon Roy; Royal Astronomical Society; Royal College of Physicians of England; Royal College of Surgeons of England; Royal Colonial Institute; Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society; Royal Commission for the Chicago Exhibition, London; Royal Dublin Society; Royal Institute of British Architects; Royal Library, Copenhagen; Royal Society of Canada; Royal Society of London; Royal University of Ireland; St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, London; Salem Public Library, Mass., U.S.A.; Salford Royal Museum and Library; William A. Sandy; George F. Savage-Armstrong, M.A., D.L.T.; James N. Schoolbred; Seismological Society of Japan; Henry Sell; The Proprietor, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool; William Sharpe, M.D.; Thomas H. Sherman (United States Consul, Liverpool); E. Shorthouse; Rev. W. Sidgreaves, S.J., &c.; Lawrence Small; Rev. Walter E. Smith, B.A.; Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.A.; Society for the Prevention of Animals from Vivisection; Society of Accountants and Auditors, London; Society of Antiquaries, London; Society of Antiquaries of Scotland; Thorvald Solberg; Southport Society of Natural Sciences; Stonyhurst College; Messrs. Stubbs and Company; The Sunset Club, Chicago, U.S.A.; Sydney University, N.S.W.; I. Tanaka (Librarian, Tokyo Library, Japan); Agent-General for Tasmania, London (Sir E. Braddon); J. Stopford Taylor (Medical Officer of Health, Liverpool); C. J. S. Thompson; W. P. Thompson, C.E.; Trinity University, Toronto, Canada (per E. K. Kendall, D.C.L.); Toronto Public Library, Canada; Toronto University College, Canada; W. E. Turner; United States Government; University College of North Wales; University College of Wales, Aberystwith; University Correspondence College, London; Agent-General for Victoria, London (Sir Graham Berry, K.C.M.G.); Registrar of Patents, Victoria; Victoria Public Library; Royal Society of Victoria; Victoria University, Manchester; Messrs. Virtue and Company; Rev. Charles Voysey, B.A.; Joint Education Committees of Wales and Monmouthshire; Mrs. Ward; Charles H. Waterhouse, B.A., M.D.; Agent-General for Western Australia (Sir Malcolm Fraser); Henry Wilde, F.R.S.; George Wood; York Subscription Library; D. Younger; Zoological Society of London.



## LENDING LIBRARIES.

It is not easy to measure the amount of valuable and useful work done through the medium of the Lending Branches. The books taken away for reading at home are enjoyed in many cases not by one person but several, so that probably the issues may be entirely duplicated in order to indicate the amount of reading done. The total volumes issued during the year number 463,256, being an increase of nearly 40,000 over the issues of last year. There have been important increases in all classes of books requiring attentive and thoughtful perusal. All the Libraries contain a large number of volumes for circulation of excellent music, which are drawn upon in a most gratifying way. How many persons and homes are made all the happier and brighter by such simple and comparatively inexpensive means, it is impossible to say. That 7,669 volumes of music should have been issued in one year shews that the taste for this agreeable elevating art is no slight one, and it is felt that much has been done by these Libraries since 1859, when the first volumes were introduced, to foster and extend it.

The large additions of books of a technical character have been made known to many artizans through the special catalogue which was printed and circulated in local workshops. The result is shewn in the important demand which has been created for these books.

Those who are cut off from the happiness of sight are not overlooked in our Libraries, for as early as 1857 books in Moon's type were placed in our North and South Branches for the use of the blind, and now an admirable collection has been formed in each of these Libraries, not only in Moon's type, but Braille, American Point, and Roman : the value of which requires no comment. The Committee would be glad that the existence of these books in the Libraries should be made more generally known.

The North and South Branch Libraries are deficient in Reading Rooms attached to them. The Committee view the want of such rooms as greatly interfering with the usefulness of the Libraries, and they look forward to a very early period when these deficiencies will be remedied, and that rooms will be provided not only for men, but also for women and boys.

TABLE I.—General Statistics.

Volumes issued, &c.	North Branch.	South Branch.	East Branch.	Total.
Volumes issued in Lending Department .....	134,654	166,116	162,486	463,256
Volumes issued in Reading Room .....	—	—	35,170	35,170
New Tickets issued .....	1,553	1,782	1,593	4,928
Tickets renewed .....	1,630	2,084	2,550	6,264
Tickets cancelled .....	1,600	1,658	1,517	4,775
* Readers on the Books .....	3,183	3,866	4,143	11,192
Books lost or injured and paid for .....	8	22	12	42
Books lost from Lending Department .....	—	—	—	—
Books stolen from Reading Room .....	—	—	6	6
Volumes worn out—withdrawn .....	—	71	—	71
Volumes worn out—replaced .....	230	375	—	605
Volumes added .....	956	965	1,072	2,993
Total volumes in Libraries .....	24,569	24,895	10,683	60,147

\* Readers borrowing tickets are required to be renewed annually, otherwise they are cancelled. This prevents an accumulation of mere nominal readers.

TABLE II.—Shewing the classification of volumes issued for home reading.

Classification.	Lending Libraries.				Reading Room, East Branch.
	North Branch.	South Branch.	East Branch.	Total.	
Theology, Morals, and Metaphysics ..	2,375	2,287	1,523	6,185	253
Natural Philosophy, and Mathematics.	1,997	2,308	1,829	6,134	478
Natural History .....	1,055	1,329	1,661	4,045	370
Science and the Arts .....	6,736	7,662	8,449	22,847	2,013
History and Biography .....	4,445	5,386	3,966	13,797	1,121
Topography and Antiquities .....	527	660	842	2,029	208
Voyages and Travels .....	2,748	3,397	3,238	9,383	652
Miscellaneous Literature .....	7,385	8,116	7,550	23,051	3,251
Jurisprudence, Law, and Politics .....	138	202	143	483	60
Commerce and Political Economy .....	634	1,171	1,079	2,884	214
Education and Language .....	877	889	650	2,416	208
Poetry and Dramatic Literature .....	929	933	1,304	3,166	438
Prose Fiction .....	104,626	131,519	130,074	366,219	25,815
Latin and Greek Classics .....	94	112	178	384	89
Books for the Blind .....	88	145	..	233	..
TOTALS .....	134,654	166,116	162,486	463,256	35,170

Total Volumes issued in Branch Libraries, 498,426.

TABLE III.—Shewing classification of Borrowers :—\*

	North Branch.	South Branch.	East Branch.	Total.
Architects, Builders, and Surveyors .....	6	13	47	66
Artists, Photographers, and Draughtsmen .....	22	20	24	66
Bakers, Butchers, and Grocers .....	62	91	103	256
Boilermakers, Platers, and Riveters .....	23	14	8	45
Bookbinders, Printers, and Stationers .....	57	60	79	196
Bookkeepers, Accountants, Clerks, and Agents .....	613	667	606	1,886
Boot and Shoe Makers .....	7	10	4	21
Brass, Iron, and Steel Founders .....	18	12	29	59
Bricklayers, Slaters, and Masons .....	9	6	10	25
Cabinetmakers, Upholsterers, and French Polishers .....	15	17	25	57
Carpenters and Joiners .....	14	56	29	99
Chemists and Druggists .....	20	19	25	64
Clergymen, Doctors, and Lawyers .....	11	17	64	92
Coach Painters and Builders .....	5	6	20	31
Cooks, Waiters, and Waitresses .....	10	15	49	74
Customs' Officers, Police Constables, Postmen, &c. ....	67	73	95	235
Dressmakers and Milliners .....	23	2	62	87
Engineers, Fitters, and Machinists .....	42	75	45	162
Farmers and Gardeners .....	3	4	9	16
Firemen .....	4	10	13	27
Ironmongers .....	10	5	4	19
Labourers .....	178	103	24	305
Licensed Victuallers, Brewers, and Barmen .....	39	10	19	68
Mariners .....	16	17	9	42
Merchants and Brokers .....	17	17	29	63
Messengers, Office Boys, and Apprentices .....	398	234	294	926
Musicians .....	11	12	46	69
Nurses .....	9	12	23	44
Painters and Plumbers .....	69	67	49	185
Pattern Makers, Moulders, and Turners .....	27	13	16	56
Students and Scholars .....	96	218	253	567
Shipwrights, Riggers, and Sailmakers .....	24	24	8	56
Smiths .....	62	19	13	94
Tailors and Drapers .....	52	25	61	138
Teachers .....	96	56	185	337
Telegraphists, Telephonists, and Typewriters .....	22	26	44	92
Warehousemen, Storekeepers, &c. ....	83	31	40	159
Watchmakers, Jewellers, and Opticians .....	18	17	15	50
Miscellaneous .....	97	170	170	437
No occupation stated (principally females) .....	855	1,552	1,419	3,826
Totals .....	3,215	3,815	4,007	11,097

\* This table appeared in the report of last year, but inasmuch as very little change has taken place in the number and personality of the readers, it is again inserted as indicating the class of persons who use the lending branches.

### EVENING READING ROOMS.

These Reading Rooms, open from 6 to 9-30 p.m., are four in number, and are located in various school-rooms. Their establishment was the outcome of a desire on the part of the Committee to give to the working classes facilities for reading within easy distance from their homes. Books are not supplied; but, instead, the principal London and local papers and a large selection of useful and entertaining magazines

and periodicals are provided. The rooms are fairly successful, but the school furniture and the difficulty of storing chairs and tables for reading purposes prevent anything like a complete success.

The attendances are as follows :—

	1892.		1891.	
	Atten- dance.	Average per night.	Atten- dance.	Average per night.
Chatsworth Street Board School .....	28,215	92	29,770	97
Queen's Road Board School .....	19,246	62	18,854	62
Stanley Road Board School .....	37,050	121	32,970	109
Wellington Road School.....	24,747	80	26,275	87
Totals.....	109,258	355	107,869	355

### FREE LECTURES.

Free Lectures have now for a period of 28 years formed part—and in their results a most important part—of the educational work carried on in connection with these institutions. They were originally the happy idea of Mr. Alderman Samuelson, who as long as he remained a member of the Library Committee gave the lecture work his cordial support. The small Lecture Hall of the Brown Library formed a suitable place to give them in, so long as they remained in the nature of school or college scientific lectures, and were given in long series, illustrated for the most part by objects and specimens from the museum. But with the growth of the modern popular lecture illustrated by photographic views through the medium of a lantern, and on subjects which appealed to the less studious and did not require note-book and pencil or close attention, the attendances have grown from some 200 at each lecture to as many as 1,600. The success of these lectures, from the attendance point, is due to the Great Hall under the Picton Reading Room which affords accommodation for such large numbers.

The object of the Committee by the lectures is to stimulate the reading of useful and instructive books by all who choose to attend them, and, especially, to enable artizans and labourers to acquire some knowledge of science, history, and geography, through the attractive means of pleasant talks, illustrated by means of experiments or the lime light. That the Committee's object is fully achieved, the 28,518 persons who have attended the 31 lectures during last Winter bears full witness. The two largest attendances during this series were 1,578 for a lecture on the "Destruction of Pompeii;" and 1,408 at one entitled "A Tour in Morocco." In all cases lectures descriptive of home or foreign travel attract the greatest audiences, and strictly scientific lectures the least. The average attendance for the whole of the series was 920.

## WINTER SERIES.

- ARGENT, W. I. "Egypt and her Music;" with Instrumental Illustrations.
- BEER, ADOLPH W. "A Glimpse at Brittany and the Bretons;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- BENSON, W. J. P. "Rambles Abroad;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- BIRCHALL, JAMES. "The Pamir Steppe and Russian Advances upon the Frontiers of India;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light and Maps.
- BROWNE, REV. JOSEPH, S.J. "The Economy of the Hive Bee;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- CLIBBORN, FREDERIC. "Italian Highways and Byways;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- COWELL, PETER, F.R.H.S., Chief Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Liverpool. "The Book and the Artist;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- DAVIES, EDWARD, F.C.S., F.I.C. "Salt;" illustrated by Experiments.
- FORTAY, J. BUTLER. "An Evening with Mendelssohn;" with Vocal and Instrumental Illustrations.
- FORWOOD, ALDERMAN SIR W. B., J.P., Chairman, Library, Museum and Arts Committee. "Ships, Ancient and Modern;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- FRASER, J. SCOTT. "A Cruise among the Canary Isles;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- GARDNER, WILLOUGHBY, F.R.G.S. "Scenes in Burmah;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- GASKING, REV. SAMUEL, B.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c. "Sea Urchins;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- GIBSON, R. J. HARVEY, M.A., F.L.S., Lecturer on Botany, University College, Liverpool. "The Life Histories of some common Vegetable Moulds;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light and Models.
- GRENSTED, REV. F. F., M.A., Second Master, Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby. "The origin of the Alphabet;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.

- HARGREAVES, JOHN.** "The Hundred of Wirral, Historical and Picturesque, Grave and Gay ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- HERDMAN, W. A., D.SC., F.L.S., &C.,** Professor of Natural History, University College, Liverpool. "The Loch Fyne Herring and its Food ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- HEWITT, WILLIAM, B.SC.** "Ice and Snow ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- JEFFS, OSMUND W.** "The Commercial Aspects of Geology ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- JOHNSON, R. C., F.R.A.S.** "The Stars and the Sun ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- LEA, JOHN, C.C.** "A Tour in Europe ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- LESLIE, FRANK J., F.R.G.S.** "An Historic Corner of Lancashire ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- MACCUNN, JOHN, M.A.,** Professor of Philosophy, University College, Liverpool. "The Practical Wisdom of Robert Burns."
- MEAKIN, J. E. BUDGETT.** "A Tour in Morocco ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- MEAKIN, J. E. BUDGETT.** "Faces in Barbary ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- QUILLIAM, W. H.** "A few weeks in Constantinople ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- SHAW, H. S. HELE, M. Inst. C.E.,** Professor of Engineering, University College, Liverpool. "The Bicycle ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- STUBBS, CAPTAIN EDWARD, R.N.** "Our Deep Sea Fisheries ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- THOMPSON, GEORGE E.** "Waterways of Holland ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- WILLIAMS, COMMANDER A. P., R.N.** "The Destruction of Pompeii ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.
- WOODWARD, ARTHUR SMITH, F.G.S., F.L.S.** "Fishes of the Deep Sea ;" illustrated by the Oxyhydrogen Light.

## MUSEUM.

## VISITORS TO MUSEUM.

	1892. (265 Days)	1891. (261 Days)
Total Visitors in the Year ... ..	327,448	320,387
Weekly Average ... ..	6,297	6,161
Daily Average ... ..	1,235	1,227

## MONDAY EVENING OPENING OF THE MUSEUM.

The Museum was open on 25 evenings, and the total attendances were 7,189, giving an average attendance of 287 per evening.

The following Lectures were given on specimens in the Museum, and were much appreciated :—

1892.

Jan. 4th.—“Cockles and Mussels, and their History,” by Mr. W. H. Read.

Jan. 11th.—“The Manners and Customs of the Early Egyptians,” by Mr. A. H. Frazer.

Jan. 18th.—“The Phases of Butterfly Life,” by Mr. C. H. Hesketh Walker.

Jan. 25th.—“Time Indicators, Ancient and Modern,” by Mr. T. Tarleton.

Feb. 1st.—“Footprints of Extinct Animals found near Liverpool,” by Mr. H. C. Beasley.

Feb. 8th.—“The Cat Tribe,” by Mr. G. J. Hill.

Feb. 15th.—“Alkali Metals and Earth Metals,” by Mr. A. Lutschaunig.

Feb. 22nd.—“The Common Lobster,” by Mr. J. A. Clubb.

Feb. 29th.—“Sponges, and how they grow,” by Mr. John Chard.

Mar. 7th.—“Elephants,” by Mr. G. F. Moore.

Mar. 14th.—“Thunderbolts,” by Mr. William Hewitt, B.Sc.

Mar. 21st.—“The Ingenuity of Primitive Races,” by Mr. P. Entwistle.

Mar. 28th.—“The History of Geology in the 19th Century,” by Mr. F. P. Marrat.

Oct. 3rd.—“Curious Chapters from the Book of Nature,” by Mr. F. P. Marrat.

Oct. 10th.—“Whales,” by Mr. G. F. Moore.

Oct. 17th.—“The Philosophy of Birds’ Nests,” by Mr. J. W. Cutmore.

Oct. 24th.—“Half-an-hour with Curious Insects,” by Mr. John Chard.

Oct. 31st.—“Ten Minutes Dabbling in a Stagnant Pool,” illustrated by rapid sketches with brush and crayon, by Mr. C. H. Hesketh Walker.

Nov. 7th.—“Phoenicians and Etruscans ; or, the Early Civilisers of the Mediterranean,” by the Rev. F. F. Grensted, M.A.

Nov. 14th.—“The Ice Age in England,” by Mr. J. Butler Davies.

Nov. 21st.—“Bristol, Chelsea and Derby China,” by Mr. John T. Beer, F.S.A.S.

Nov. 28th.—“The Educational Model of a Clock,” which can be taken in pieces and put together again without the aid of an instrument, by Mr. G. Eccles.

Dec. 5th.—“A Talk about Fishes,” by Mr. P. F. J. Corbin.

Dec. 12th.—“Corals and their Work,” by Mr. W. H. Read.

Dec. 19th.—“How Music is made,” by Mr. W. I. Argent.

#### CIRCULATING SCHOOL CABINETS.

Additional Cabinets of Economic Products have been added to the collection during the year, and have been much appreciated.

The Cabinets have been regularly issued to the Elementary Schools.

#### TECHNICAL APPARATUS.

The Technical Apparatus, provided by means of the Government Grant in aid of Technical Education, has been in much demand since the Catalogues of the Apparatus were issued to the Masters and Mistresses of all the Elementary Schools within the City boundaries.

The lanterns and slides are much sought after, and teachers have written to say how useful they have been, particularly for giving object lessons to the juniors.

One teacher writes as follows :—

“In giving object lessons so much required by young children,  
“I think it invaluable. First of all you can give the lesson



“to a great number of children. Here we had 504 present for the ‘History of Bread’ and I venture to say that they will not forget the history. During the week I have been round the various classes and questioned them on what they had seen, and really the impression it had made upon them astonished me.”

#### DONATIONS.

A Model of a Dry Gas Meter; presented by Messrs. W. & B. Cowan, per Mr. Edward Allen.

The Head of a Fossil Fish, from the London Clay, Isle of Sheppey; presented by Surgeon-Colonel S. Archer.

Two specimens (male and female) of West African Lepidoptera, *Nymphalis tridates*; presented by Mr. G. Morel-Deville.

A collection of Minerals, Rocks, Fossils, &c., presented by Mrs. Drakeford. “This collection consists of a large number of Geological Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils. Amongst the Rock specimens are some very fine examples of Granite, Syenite, Porphyry, Gneiss, Mica Schist, and representative minerals illustrating almost every geological formation from the Lower Silurian to the Upper Tertiaries. The Fossils are principally Chalk and Lias: the Fish bones, scales, teeth, and spines are both rare and fine; the Lias Ammonites are interesting, and many of them are new to the collection. A small tray of Minerals has been selected, containing Ores of Silver, Copper, Bismuth, Titanium, Zinc, as well as some very interesting forms of Iron, one of which is quite new to me.”—F.P.M.

A Shark, new to the Collection, from the Bay of Biscay; presented by Messrs. Harley and Miller.

A fine specimen of Albatross, *Diomedea exulans*, from the Pacific; presented by Captain W. H. Kidley, s.s. Ionic.

A Model of a Gas Meter; presented by Mr. William King, Memb. Inst. C.E.

Two Canaries, *Fringilla canaria*; presented by Mr. A. G. McCulloch.

A specimen of the Bohemian Waxwing Chatterer, *Ampelis garrulus*, shot at Simonswood; presented by the Executors of the late Matthew McKerrow, per Mr. J. M. Ferguson.

A Young Peacock, *Pavo cristatus* ; presented by Mr. Councillor J. B. Morgan.

A Lizard, in glass case, from Queensland ; presented by Mrs. McLeod Powell.

Three Ants' Nests, from the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres ; and a Half-circular Trap-door Spider's Nest, from the Yosemite Valley, California ; presented by Mr. Frederick Taylor.

#### PURCHASES.

Skull and Horns of a Male Indian Buffalo, *Bos buffelus*.

A stuffed Lion Monkey, *Midas rosalia*.

Specimens of the Greater Weever, *Trachinus draco*, and a black Sea Bream, *Cantharus lineatus*, from Jersey ; mounted by the Davidson process.

Nine Corals, viz. :—*Merulina ampliata*, *Hypnophora polygonata*, *Madrepora hystrix*, *Psammochora obtusangulata*, *Alveopora spongiosa*, *Tridacophyllia lactuea*, *Euphyllia rugosa*, *Tubipora rubiola*, *Trachyphyllia amarantum*.

A coloured reproduction of a recent shell, *Pleurotomaria Adamsoniana*, *Crosse* and *Fischer*, from Tobago, West Indies.

A coloured reproduction of a Fossil Shell *Pleurotomaria proteus*, var-*Excelsa*, Deslongsch. Inferior Oolite (Bajocien) Bayeux, France.

Four specimens (male and female) of West African Lepidoptera, *Nymphalis pollux* and *Diadema*.

Eight specimens of Brazilian Moths and Butterflies.

Life History of *Sphinx euphorbiæ*.

Nest of an Indian Tree Ant, *Ocophylla smaragdina*, with specimens of male and two females of Tree Ant.

Two pairs of Chank Shell Bracelets, used on the arm and ankle by natives of India, and two small bracelets also worn by the natives.

Four Slabs of Remains of *Megalosaurus Bucklandi*, Meyer, from the Inferior Oolite, Sherborne, Dorset. Described by Prof. Owen in Quart. Jour., Geol. Soc., April, 1883.

Two specimens of Fossil Fish, *Bothriolepis Canadensis*, Upper Devonian, Canada (Dorsal and Ventral Aspects), from the originals in the British Museum.

## EXCHANGES.

Received from the British Museum, in exchange for Vole and Skull, from Kashmir, three Squirrels, *Sciurus caniceps*, *Sciurus atrodorsalis*, *Sciurus palmarum*; two Rats, *Nesorkia bengalensis*, *Mus losea*, and one Shrew, *Crocidura murina*.

Specimens of Siren and Skink, in spirit, received from Prof. G. W. Howes in exchange for a specimen of *Xenopus Tadpole* from West Africa.

## MAYER MUSEUM.

A selected group of Nautical Instruments and Liverpool Pottery, illustrative of local shipping, was prepared for the Naval Exhibition, held in the Walker Art Gallery.

By permission of the Committee a set of electrotypes of Merovingian Coins, found in St. Martin's Churchyard, Canterbury, and now in this Museum, were prepared for the Rev. Canon Routledge.

Dr. Samuel Smiles having undertaken to write a new life of Josiah Wedgwood, applied for the loan of the volumes of "Wedgwood's Letters," now in this collection, which request was granted.

Mr. Evan Roberts, of Manchester, has lent for exhibition an interesting series of 580 watches, illustrative of the various forms and methods of decoration from an early period to a recent date.

The reserve cases in the great hall have again been of great service for the periodical exhibition of selected groups of objects, which, owing to want of room, are not on constant exhibition; and during the year the collection of Chinese Industrial Objects presented by Consul Parker, a selection of objects from Morocco, &c., have occupied them.

## DONATIONS.

Flint Arrow-heads and fragments of Urns from an old Indian burial mound, Lake Weir, Marion Co., Florida; collected and presented by Mr. J. Duncan Stoward.

Stone and Flint Implements from Trout, Cat, and God's Lakes, and Bear Rapids, Winnipeg River, Canada; also fragment of Urns from Indian burial mounds; collected and presented by Mr. G. Mitchell.

Iron Chest, found in a recess in the walls—8 feet thick—at 61, Bartholomew Close, London, about 1820; presented by William Mr. B. Rippon.

Piece of Sculpture in limestone, the upper part of a female figure, with inscription; found in a cavern discovered when digging the foundations for a building in Palmyra, Syria; presented by Mr. James L. Bowes.

Very rare Japanese Pre-historic Clay Figure; presented by Mr. James L. Bowes.

Two frames containing casts of Antique Gems in the British Museum; presented by the Trustees of the British Museum.

Two Cloaks, one made of the undressed stalks of the flax, *Phormium tenax*, a girdle belt, necklace and necklet, from New Zealand; presented by Mr. Charles Every.

Collection of Chinese Industrial objects, purchased in the bazaars of Hoilow, the Port of Kiungchow, Hainan Island, and presented by Mr. Edward Harper-Parker, Her Majesty's Consul at Kiungchow.

Very large Vase of Mason's Ironstone China; presented by Mr. Benson Rathbone.

Drawing of minute flint implements, from Europe; presented by Mr. Charles Seidler.

#### PURCHASES.

Large Ivory War Horn, and two Grass Mats, from West Africa. (Col. G. W. Williams' Collection.)

Selected specimens of Roman Glass, recently discovered at Nazareth.

Collection of Ethnographical Objects from Morocco, collected by Mr. J. E. B. Meakin, viz.:—Dinner Table, Snake-Charmers' Tambourine, Musical Instruments, Lamp, Inkstand, Candles, Pipe, Antimony Holder, Water Bottle, and Distaff and Spindle.

Collection of Minute Agate, Chalcedony and other Implements, found in various caves and rock shelters in the Vindhya Hills, Central Provinces of India.

Marble Bust of William Roscoe.

Thirteen Objects carved in Catlonite, by Indians of Dakota.

Berlin Porcelain Vase.

## WALKER ART GALLERY.

The work of the Art Department during the past official year has been characterized by great activity, and the resources of the Gallery have been taxed to the fullest extent. In addition to the ordinary work of the Permanent Collection, and the usual Autumn Exhibition, fully two-thirds of the year were taken up by the holding of an Exhibition of Naval and Nautical Appliances, which was attended with great success. The Exhibition was suggested by the Right Honourable A. B. Forwood, M.P., then Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, by whose influence and exertion the Committee were able to get together one of the most complete and interesting Exhibitions illustrative of Naval and Nautical Appliances ever seen in Liverpool. The Exhibition was opened on February 1st by the First Lord of the Admiralty, The Right Honourable George Hamilton, the inauguration being attended by His Worship the Mayor of Liverpool, J. De Bels Adam, Esquire, and a large and distinguished company. The Exhibition was open five months, and during that period it was visited by nearly 150,000 persons.

The negotiations which have for some time been in progress with the Trustees of the Royal Institution, for the transfer of the Roscoe Collection of Pictures to the Walker Art Gallery, have been satisfactorily concluded, the Corporation having agreed under certain conditions to take charge of the works and to find suitable accommodation for them. It has been arranged to exhibit the Collection in the Spring Exhibition of Local Art to be opened early in March.

The acquisition of these interesting works will, it is expected, prove of great value to students, as for the first time they will have free access to them every day and be enabled to study the rise and progress of art from the earliest times.

During the year the Gallery was open to the public on 342 days, and closed for cleaning and others purposes on 23 days.

The total number of visitors was 617,647, being a daily average of 1805. This total includes 144,459 visitors who paid for admission to the Naval Exhibition, and 69,703 to the Autumn Exhibition of Pictures; also 11,858 pupils of schools, of various denominations, admitted to the Exhibition free. The Gallery is open each Sunday from 2-30 to 5-30 p.m. The average daily attendance last year being 833.



*Liverpool Free Public Library, Museum, and Gallery of Art.*